

# SUGAR and PLANTATION NEWS

## NEW YORK MARKET ADJUSTING ITSELF TO NEW CONDITIONS

End of September Sees Sugar Business Still Unsettled But Begging To Find Self

### HAWAIIAN SUGAR RUMOR GIVEN POSITIVE DENIAL

Product of Islands Will Continue To Be Refined On Atlantic As Well As Pacific Coast

Full of interest to the sugar industry is the letter this week received by one of the largest local sugar agencies from its New York representative, under date of September 29. This letter mentions but gives no details of the two zones for price fixing of which another article on this page gives full information. It authentically denies the report that Hawaiian sugar is to be refined only on the Pacific Coast, and mentions the desire of the food administration to furnish France with the 100,000 tons that country has asked for in the near future through economies practiced by the consumers.

In full the letter says:

#### Many Rumors Heard

"This has been a week of rumors and counter rumors. Arbutle's refinery has shut down for want of raw sugar and the Federal threatened to follow suit for the same reason giving out that the Food Controller will not let them buy any more raws. "On Thursday the Food Controller's mandate was published to the effect that refiners must not keep on hand more than a ten days' supply of raw sugar, and the same day Warner bought 5000 bags Cuban prompt shipment at 5.87 1/2 cents C. & F. This purchase evidently met with approval of the food commission as there has been no criticism as in the case of the previous sale to an operator at 6 cents and it is, therefore, concluded that legitimate purchases as high as 5.87 1/2 cents C. & F. will meet with approval. Cubans, therefore, know pretty nearly what to expect for the small unsold remainder of their sugar.

#### Commission Opens Office

"Press reports, before this reaches you, will have made you familiar with the new zones and the manner in which the commission is expected to merge the old prices into the new as the season advances. They are fitting up offices at 111 Wall Street in the heart of the sugar district, and when these are established we shall probably have an end of rumor mongering. One of these, promptly contradicted however, that Hawaiian sugars were henceforth to be refined only on the West Coast, need less to say, caused a sensation in certain quarters.

#### Cuban Crops Run Up

"The Cuban crop produced this year is now running about of last year due to the fact, no doubt, that every stick of cane that will produce a reasonable percentage of sugar is being ground.

Figures for the week ending 22nd instant are:

	Himely	Guma
Receipts	5,355	11,863
Exports	13,267	12,813
Stock	140,589	132,845
Central	3	3
Exports:		
Atlantic Coast	7,067	3,990
New Orleans, etc.	1,572	1,500
Europe	4,628	7,123

#### Storm Helped Cuba

"Within the past two or three days a severe hurricane has been raging in the Gulf of Mexico after devastating the island of Jamaica, and, as usual, the heavy rain accompanying this storm will do an immense amount of good to the growing cane all over Cuba, far counterbalancing some slight damage in the central provinces.

#### Badly Sugar

"Hand to mouth is the order of the day. All refiners are quoting from 8.40 cents to 8.50 cents basis. Consumers are being asked to curb their appetite for everything into which sugar enters as a component part so that the request of the French Government for a supply of 100,000 tons in the next few weeks may be complied with out of the already inadequate stocks we have for our own use. Refiners are, therefore, restricting sales but none of them appear to fear that there will not be enough to go round. Even Arbutle, though it has ceased to operate, is taking care of customers from accumulated stocks on hand.

#### TAKES CUBAN BONDS

The government of Cuba, through its news bureau in New York, authorizes the announcement that half of the Cuban \$30,000,000 war bond issue had been subscribed by the United States treasury. The remaining \$15,000,000 will be disposed of to Cuban investors. Authorization for this loan was extended by the Cuban Congress to President Menocal some time ago, and the decision of the United States government to support the issue of her Caribbean ally followed conferences in Washington between Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo and officials of the State department of Cuba. Completion of these financial arrangements assures the early consummation of President Menocal's far-reaching plans for Cuba's active alliance with the United States in the war.

## TWO PRICES FOR CANE SUGAR ON MAINLAND NOW

Explanation of Differing Quotations From Atlantic and Pacific Refineries Tells of Operations in Two Zones

Explanation of the difference between the quotations for cane sugar on the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard has at length reached Hawaii and is simple and clear. The country has been divided into two zones, an eastern and a western, and the eastern zone is expected to automatically contract while the western one expands as the beet sugar of the middle west and north comes into market and the Louisiana cane crop and the Cuban new crop reach the eastern market. Meantime Hawaiian shipments to the east are bringing about a cent a pound more than those to the Pacific Coast.

The following announcement from the food administration under date of September 25 gives the explanation of the two prices for cane raw sugar and for all refined sugar which are prevailing in the east and west of the mainland:

An anomaly will exist in the sugar trade after the first of October. The country temporarily will be divided into two price zones. California beet started in August and the factories are now in the middle of their campaign. The Colorado-Utah-Michigan factories will not begin operation until about October 10 and up to that time California is supplying the entire beet from Chicago to St. Louis, west. The cane refiners on the Pacific coast will join with the beet factories and make a voluntary price of 7.25 cent cane basis, October 1, f. o. b. seaboard points, and have sufficient cane, judiciously handled, to meet requirements to the trade from Chicago, St. Louis and west; therefore, there will be a line drawn north and south throughout the United States, on one side of which beet and cane will both be selling on a 7.25 cent basis, freights added, and on the other side cane selling on an 8.40 cent basis with no beet competition. As the volume of beet output increases it will gradually reach east beyond the Chicago-St. Louis line, and probably sometime during the month of November will reach the Atlantic seaboard on a 7.25 cent seaboard figure. The amount of cane in the east is sufficient, together with the beet which will gradually work in, to take care of the entire eastern section of the country until the new Cuban crop appears in December, especially as Louisiana sugars will come in to fill any gap. Following this brief period the expectation is that all cane refineries and beet plants in the United States will be on a 7.25 cent seaboard cane basis. There is no cause for excitement during this period of readjustment, and as prices in the east will gradually take a downward tendency until they reach the 7.25 cent basis, people in this section, in fact all sections of the country, should buy sugars only as required. This will aid the government by allowing larger exports for our allies.

In the intermediate zone where the two different prices meet there is bound to be more or less confusion as to what price shall be charged to the retail trade. In this district jobbers and distributors are asked to cooperate with the Food Administration in keeping the disturbance at the lowest possible level. Consumers also are requested to be patient during the period of price adjustment, for it will last but a short time, as uniform prices for cane sugar and for beet sugar will be established just as soon as the new cane crops from Louisiana, Cuba and Porto Rico begin to move.

Jobbers and dealers will be required by the Food Administration to sell the sugars on the basis of cost to them with a reasonable margin of profit added.

#### McBRYDE MILL IS BEING TRANSFORMED

Great Improvements Under Way and Ready For Next Crop

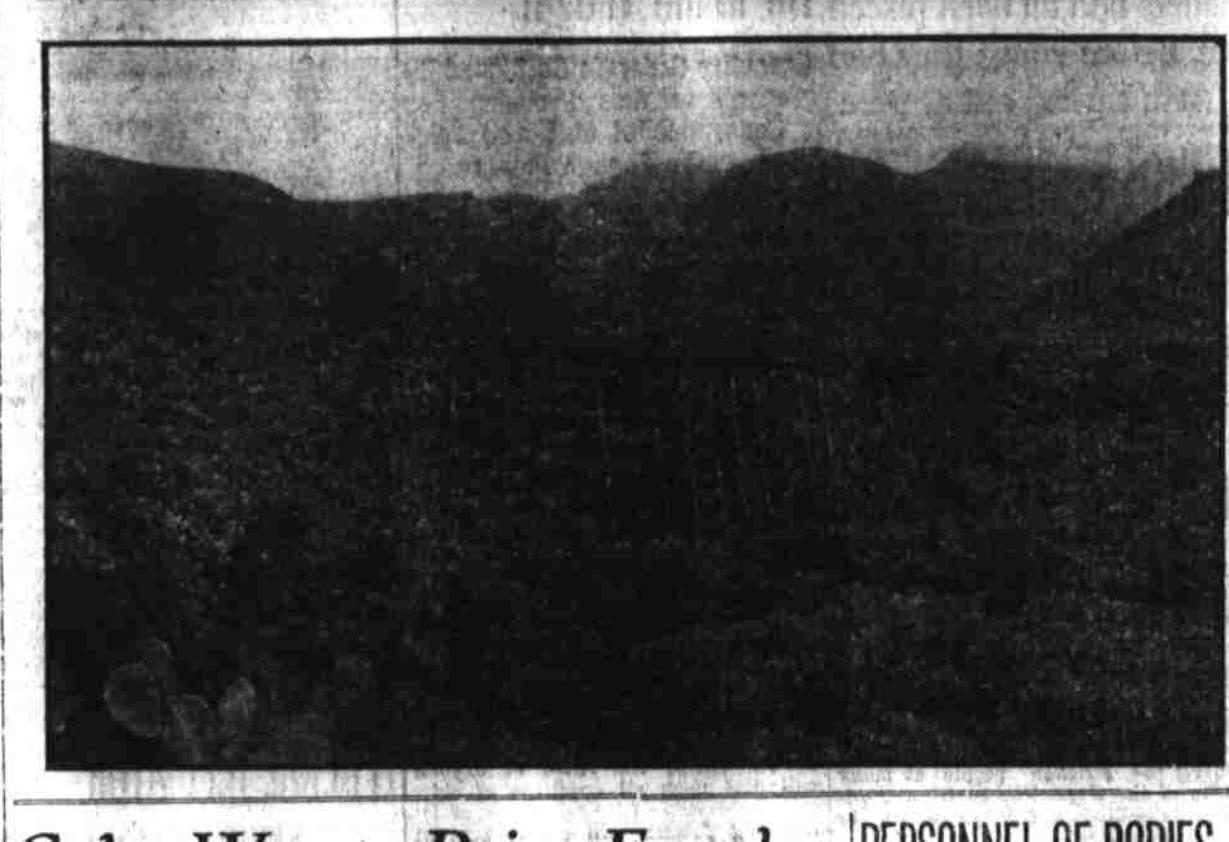
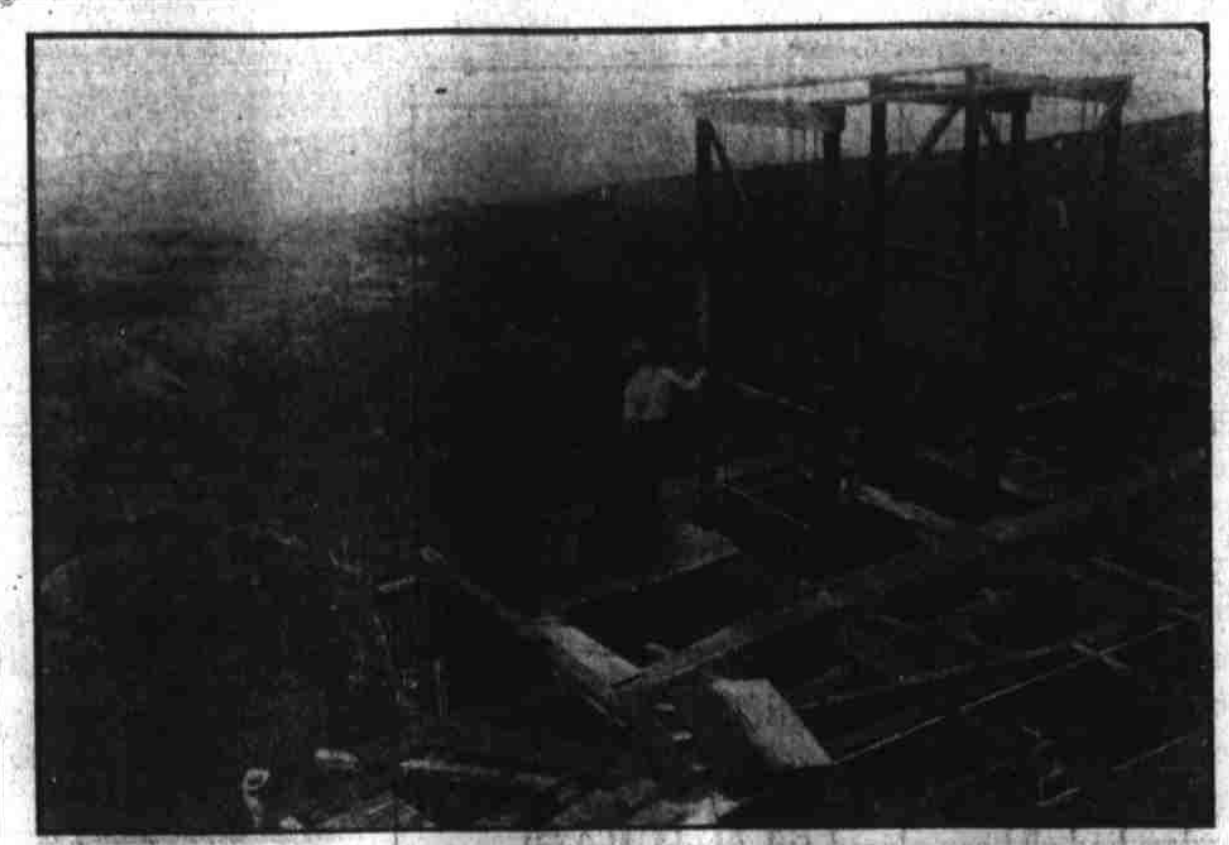
Big changes and improvements are being made in the mill of the McBryde Sugar Company at Eleele, Kauai, according to recent reports received from the Garden Island. These reports say that the McBryde mill is in process of almost complete internal transformation. A new standard triple effect, a large twelve foot vacuum pan, four new crystallizers and a new juice heater, besides the necessary changes that go with these additions, taken with the improvements made last year will bring McBryde to the very front among the factories of the Islands. The work is already well along toward a finish so that they will be ready to start on the new crop.

#### McBRYDE MILL IS BEING TRANSFORMED

Great Improvements Under Way and Ready For Next Crop

The transformation is being made by Catton, Neill & Co.

PIONEER MILL COMPANY at Lahaina, Maui, has felt the benefit of its improved irrigation methods during the drought this year, and in consequence has suffered less than some other Maui plantations, but it is to have even greater facilities with the completion of its Honokawai tunnel project. The upper picture is taken looking out from the fore-boy and the lower shows one of the great new flumes.



## Cuba Wants Price Equal To That Paid America

Opinion prevails among sugar men here that what is meant by Cuban growers when they say that they want equality in profits and price with the beet sugar men of the United States is that they want their sugar admitted either duty free or at a price amounting to the duty above that which has been agreed upon between the Louisiana and the Hawaiian growers.

It appears that they can see no reason why, under present conditions, there should be any protective tariff on American grown cane sugar and that if it be a matter of revenue needed the price fixed by the food controllers should be such that the burden would not fall upon the Cuban growers. They seemingly urge that the United States wants the sugar, for itself and its allies must have it, is fixing the price that it will pay and fixes that price lower for the Cubans than for the residents of America. Cuba as the great producer of the American continent has been able heretofore to dictate sugar prices and is asked to forgo this for the sake of the United States and allies, and in so doing to be "discriminated against," as they express it. This is what it seems that they mean when they ask for a "fair and just price."

In the last issue of Facts About Sugar the following account of the first session of the Cuban Commission and of its plans is given:

The first session of the commission was to the nature of an interchange of views between the three commissioners. It is understood that the commission will continue its sessions for several days and will confer with Food Administrator Hoover and the officials of the sugar bureau on some day next week or to be yet.

It is understood that one of the contentions in which the commission will have considerable stress is that of having an investigation made of conditions in Cuba covering production costs to be used in the contention made by the Cuban growers that the widely talked of price for Cuba, which the food administration desires to be set for the coming crop sugars, is too low.

#### PERSONNEL OF BODIES THAT ARE WORKING ON PRICES FOR SUGARS

Here is the personnel of the two sugar commissions and the two committees through whom the price fixing of the commodity has gone forward and is now progressing:

International Sugar Commission	Washington
Earl D. Babbitt	New York
Wm. A. Jamison	New York
James H. Post	New York
C. M. Warner	New York
Geo. H. Barle, Jr.	Philadelphia
Dwight P. Thomas	Boston
And Alternates Thereon	
R. M. Parker	New York
R. A. Oxnard	Savannah
Wm. Henderson	New Orleans
Beet Distribution Committee	
H. A. Douglas	Detroit
W. F. Turner	Detroit
E. C. Howe	Denver
W. S. Petrik	Denver
W. H. Hatnam	San Francisco
S. W. Sinsheimer	Huntington Beach, Cal.
S. H. Love	Salt Lake City

## SUGAR LOSSES ON HAWAII AND MAUI MAY RUN HIGH AS HUNDRED THOUSAND TONS

Weather Conditions Show No Signs of Improvement and Grinding of Crop Now Begins Only About One-fourth of Production Than Would Otherwise Be Obtained

With the continuance of the drought, few or none in the lowlands. Government reports show:

Island of Hawaii	Last Four Week Weeks
Phaekes Ranch (4), North Kohala	0.07 0.38
Kohala Mill (4), North Kohala	0.14 0.36
Kohala Mission (3), North Kohala	0.07 0.46
Niuli (4), North Kohala	0.02 0.57
Honokaa (3), Hamakua	0.03 0.11
Pauha (3), Hamakua	0.00 0.06
Ookala (4), North Hilo	0.12 0.62
Lanipahoehoe (4), North Hilo	0.25 0.83
Honohina (3), North Hilo	0.49 1.67
Honouma (4), South Hilo	0.94 3.03
Pepeekeo (4), South Hilo	1.23 3.03
Papaikou (4), South Hilo	0.77 4.41
Hilo (5), South Hilo	0.13 2.69
Ponahawai (3), South Hilo	0.94 1.96
Glenwood (4), Puna	0.52 3.39
Kapoho (4), Puna	1.47 2.06
Volcano Observatory (3)	
Kau	0.18 1.02
Kealahou (4), South Kohala	1.60 7.77

#### Damages More Serious

This year's crop for the Island of Hawaii will be in excess of 235,000 tons and next year's crop was expected to run somewhat larger. Maui's crop this year will exceed 150,000 tons. Less the damage to Hawaii crops as high as 70,000 tons and to Maui plantations as 30,000 tons. Should these guesses, for they are little more than guesses founded upon knowledge of conditions, be verified, it would mean a loss of output of 100,000 short tons of sugar which at six cent sugar would mean a cash loss of \$12,000,000.

#### Weather Conditions Unchanged

Weather conditions generally on the two drought stricken islands have not improved in the past week. Government reports for last week and the latest returns to plantations show the drought belt to be as dry as ever and rainfall below the normal in all parts of the islands. The same or similar conditions prevail on Maui. There are some rains in the higher altitudes but

some plantations are grinding the 1918 crop. One of the last to start was Pauhau, but results are meager. Some are getting only a ton an acre as a result of such early grinding, about one-fourth of the normal production.

One theory for the cutting of the 1918 crop now is that by so doing the roots may be saved and the expense of replanting, which would be for the 1920 crop thus avoided. If the roots are killed as well as the stalks the 1919 crop must suffer correspondingly with the 1918.

## DECEMBER MAY SEE MUCH SUGAR LEFT IN FIELDS OF HAWAII

Continuance of Matson Line Steamers Will Help But Much Remains To Be Ground

Continuance of the Matson line steamers under charter by the government to the country after they have been taken over by the latter will simplify the problem of marketing the balance of the crop that goes to Crockett but it by no means ends the problem. Ordinarily December 1 would practically clear up even the late sugar but this year other complications have entered into the problem. There will be an unusual quantity of late sugar.

The differing conditions of this year's transportation problem arise from the drought on Hawaii. Numbers of plantations are unable to turn out from the mills the usual daily production. Water for fluming the cane to the mills is not obtainable. When this condition will end no one can tell. Until it does the daily output of the Big Island is greatly reduced although in the end the production for the year from that island will be above early expectations. Even should good rains come now it would be impossible for these plantations to complete their grinding during November.

There still remains over 30,000 tons of late sugar to be shipped, and this is more than sixty percent of all that remains to be shipped from the Islands. There is always some late sugar from other islands, especially Oahu, so that it will not be surprising if December will find as much as 20,000 and perhaps 25,000 tons of sugar as yet unshipped. What the amount will be depends almost entirely on when normal rains on the island of Hawaii set in.

#### GREAT NORTHERN GIVEN SENDOFF AT BAY CITY

SAN FRANCISCO, September 21.—The departure of the Hill yarder Great Northern for Flavel yesterday morning was the cause of many a sigh of regret, as it will probably be the last time this magnificent steamer will be seen here in a long while, for on completing the discharge of her cargo at the Columbia River port she will be turned over to the government, who has commandeered her, as well as the sister ship.

As the vessel left port she was given quite a sendoff along the wharves and by the other vessels in port, sirens and whistles shrieking their farewell to the vessel and her officers.

#### KIIAHEA ENDS GRINDING

The Kilauea Plantation has finished its crop with a crop of 5920 tons, which is just a little short of the estimate. The unusually low sugar content of the juice, due doubtless to climatic conditions cut into the crop badly.

#### AT LEAST FIFTY ACRES DESTROYED AND SUSPECTED INCENDIARY IS ARRESTED

Incendary fires on Hawaii Plantation are reported by recent arrivals from the island of Hawaii. The suspected perpetrator, or one of them, is reported to be under arrest. He is a Filipino and it is supposed that he is a laborer who thinks he has a grievance and who took this method of avenging it, say reports received from Hilo.

Arrivals from Hilo early this week told of supposedly incendiary fires on Hawaii Plantation and considerable damage to the already badly dried cane fields, burned by sun and drought. It was said that there had been four fires, some of them extinguished with no small difficulty, and that the cane on sixty-four acres had been burned off. This was cause of the 1918 crop.

Inquiry at the office of Hind, Rolph & Company, agent for the plantation confirmed in part the stories that had been heard. It was admitted that there had been a fire or fires and that fifty acres of cane had been destroyed. The suspected incendiary had been, it was said, arrested. As to what proof there was against the man information had not yet been received.

Hawaii was the first plantation to start grinding 1918 cane. It was learned at the office of the agency yesterday that the purpose for which this was undertaken had been answered and that the plantation had ceased grinding of 1918 cane.

#### LIBBY, McNEILL & LIBBY VESSEL IS GREAT SUCCESS

PORT TOWNSEND, September 27.—Captain J. T. Flynn, master of the new motor schooner W. F. Burrows, just in from the north, gives it as his opinion that the auxiliary powered sailing vessel has been demonstrated a success in Alaskan waters. The W. F. Burrows, which is owned and operated by Libby, McNeill & Libby, was the first auxiliary power sailing vessel to be tried out in Alaskan waters. Flynn states that the possession of auxiliary power eliminates a lot of risk, especially when the vessel is in the cannery trade. He adds: "A ship is more likely to drift ashore in calms, strong gales and fog than in violent weather. If equipped with auxiliary power the sailing vessel need have no fear of those perils. She is as safe as if she had a strong tug ahead of her."

#### AN AID TO DIGESTION

When you have a fullness and weight in the stomach after eating you may know that you have eaten too much, and should take one of Chamberlain's Tablets to aid your digestion. For sale by all dealers, Benson, Smith & Co., Ltd. Agents for Hawaii.—Advertisement.